

**DYTISCUS LAPPONICUS GYLL. (COL.: DYTISCIDAE)**  
**SUNBATHING** — On a family holiday near Loch Maree in Wester Ross, we chose one warm day (11.viii.1987) to go in search of *D. lapponicus* Gyllenhal among the hills to the west of Strath Lungard. As luck had it, we found the species at the first lochan we visited, at an altitude of 550m, but not in the usual way, for our first glance at the scene revealed a female (beetle, that is) quite dry, basking in the sun on a stone which protruded out of the water. Then we saw two more females similarly sunbathing a few feet away and a fourth out of the water on a stone in a nearby lochan. There were other females and some males to be seen swimming in the water and the lochan was swarming with very large tadpoles (? lacking iodine) plus a few frogs and newts. On the surface of the lochan were a number of *Gyrinus opacus* Sahlberg.

I have not been able to find any previous record of *D. lapponicus* sunbathing in this way. I am tempted to speculate that the beetles were preparing to fly though, as far as I am aware, there are no British records of *D. lapponicus* flying. Nevertheless, the species breeds in still water, often in small lochans with no obvious inflow or outflow from which one would conclude that at least some examples fly. Other members of the genus *Dytiscus* certainly fly though I have been unable to discover whether they sunbathe prior to taking off.

It would have been nice to have been able to wait and witness flight if this was what the beetles intended but it was late afternoon and there was still a 3hr walk back to the car so we left the site without an explanation. J. A. OWEN, 8 Kingsdown Road, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3PU.

**LIGHT TRAP OF FAIR ISLE** — early in 1987 the writers conveyed an 80W m.v. to Fair Isle, midway between Orkney and Shetland, and left it in the care of the warden of the bird observatory, Mr. Nick Riddiford. Early reports are encouraging, with both the *orkneyensis* and *thulei* subspecies of *Diarsia mendica* being noted.

Visiting entomologists would be welcome (full board available) — contact the Warden, Bird Observatory, Fair Isle, Shetland ZE2 9JU. Telephone 03512-258. P. J. SELLAR and B. M. O'BRIAN, 89 Riddlesdown Road, Purley, Surrey.

**LIMNAECIA PHRAGMITELLA STAINTON (LEP.: MOMPHIDAE) IN FIFE** — Since its discovery as a Scottish resident at Possil Marsh, v.c. 77, by R. P. Knill-Jones in 1982 (*Proc. Trans. Br. ent. Nat. Hist. Soc.* (1983) 16: 103) this species has been found to occur at two other sites near Glasgow (in v.c.76) and on Arran (v.c. 100) (*Glasg. Nat.* (1984) 20: 436; (1986) 21: 150; *Ent. Rec.*